

The LEAFLET



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More Green Lights Keep Traffic Moving

If you're a daily commuter on El Toro Road, you're in for a smoother ride! That's because the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) just finished a Traffic Light Synchronization Program that keeps traffic flowing.

Working together with Caltrans, the County of Orange and several other Orange County cities, OCTA implemented a new signal timing plan for El Toro Road. This joint effort significantly improved traffic conditions along this 11-mile stretch from Laguna Canyon to Santiago Canyon. Not only are commuters reaping the benefits of stopping less and getting to where they want to be faster, but the project is also expected to reduce greenhouse gases by 17 million pounds!

In addition to El Toro Road, the City is implementing traffic signal synchronization throughout the City to improve the overall traffic flow. You've probably already noticed a difference on some of our major streets including Lake Forest Drive, Bake Parkway, Trabuco Road, and Portola Parkway. Earlier this year, the City re-timed 73 intersections and implemented new timing plans for major streets in addition to replacing 62 traffic signal controllers and updating 20 more. Now sit back and enjoy the ride!



Fast Facts about the El Toro Road Traffic Synchronization Program

- ✓ Reduces travel times by 12%-14% during the busiest commute hours
- ✓ Reduces the average number of stops by 19%-41%
- ✓ Improves the average speeds by 14%-32%

Sports Park Groundbreaking ... Page 3



CITY MANAGER'S



Message

Smoother Rides Around Town

I hope you've enjoyed driving on Alton Parkway as much as I have. Closing that gap was a major milestone for the City, and I'm pleased to share that we've closed another gap with the completion of the Rancho Parkway Project. This project fills the gap on Rancho Parkway between Lake Forest Drive and Portola Parkway. A few weeks ago, the City hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the grand opening of the four-lane divided roadway. In the future, the road will also provide access to the Sports Park and Recreation Center.

We're also seeing data from the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) indicating smoother rides along El Toro due to the El Toro Traffic Signal Synchronization Project. According to the data, during the busiest commute hours, travel times have been reduced by 12% - 14%. In addition, the average number of stops a vehicle makes has been reduced by 19% - 41% and average speeds have improved by 14% - 32%. We're thrilled with these results and hope you are too.

We're excited to bring you these projects and other capital improvement projects that maintain the high quality of life residents and businesses have come to expect. For the latest news on traffic and capital improvement projects in Lake Forest, visit the City's website at www.lakeforestca.gov/traffic or www.lakeforestca.gov/CIP.

Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,

Robert C. Dunek

Robert C. Dunek,
City Manager

Etnies Skatepark of Lake Forest Wins OC Parenting Magazine Reader's Choice Award



Etnies Skatepark of Lake Forest is the *crème de la crème* of skateparks in South Orange County! With over 60,000 votes, the renowned Skatepark received the #1 Reader's Choice Award for the best skate park in South OC, from *OC Parenting* magazine. The Skatepark consists of 62,000 square feet of skateable terrain for skaters of all skill levels to enjoy from around the world.

Upcoming City Council Meeting Dates

City Council meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of every month starting at 7:00 p.m.

- Tuesday, November 6
- Tuesday, November 20
- Tuesday, December 4
- Tuesday, December 18

Sports Park Groundbreaking and Grand Opening of Rancho Parkway



On October 9, the City hosted the Sports Park Groundbreaking ceremony to kick off the construction of the much anticipated Sports Park. Over 200 people gathered to check out construction plans for the Sports Park and Recreation Center, and enjoyed food, games, and giveaways. If you want to stay in touch with the latest and greatest on the Sports Park, "like" us on our Sports Park & Recreation Center Facebook page.

The event also celebrated the completion of Rancho Parkway. This roadway project not only fills the gap between Lake Forest Drive and Portola Parkway, but will also lead drivers into the future Sports Park.



New Business Reception

The City is hosting a Business Reception for new Lake Forest businesses on Wednesday, January 23, 2013, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Lake Forest City Hall. The welcome reception will offer a light meal and provide attendees with an overview of business resources and marketing tools, and feature information booths from the Lake Forest Chamber of Commerce, SCORE Business Counselors, Small Business Administration, Business Watch, and more!

Contact the City's Economic Development Division at economicdevelopment@lakeforestca.gov or at 461-3567 to receive your official invitation.

Statewide Voter Information Guide Available in Audio Form

Did you know the Secretary of State publishes the Statewide Voter Information Guide in audio form? This important Guide contains information on each of the statewide ballot measures, legislative analysis of all the propositions, and information on candidates, including their candidate statements. If you or someone you know is interested in obtaining a free copy of the audio version of the Voter Information Guide for the November 6, 2012 Statewide General Election, contact the City Clerk at 461-3421.

Holiday Tree Recycling



Waste Management of Orange County will recycle your Christmas trees from December 26, 2012 through January 11, 2013. Just leave your undecorated tree at the curb near your trash cans on your regular trash pick-up day. Be sure to remove all decorations such as ornaments, tinsel, lights, and the tree stand. Trees taller than six feet must be cut in half. Residents can also cut their trees and place them in the green waste bin during or after holiday tree collection. Flocked trees will be collected but can not be recycled. For more information, visit www.wmorangecounty.com.

Let's Talk Trash



Here's your opportunity to tell us which recycling and waste programs you want to see in Lake Forest! Waste Management of Orange County's contract is going to expire next year and we want to hear from you regarding the types of programs to include in the next contract. By taking a quick survey, you can help us identify the issues that are most important to the community so we can provide you the tools to stay green and clean. All responses will be anonymous.

The survey can be found at www.lakeforestca.gov/RecycleSurvey and must be completed no later than November 30 at 5 p.m.

Help Keep Our Parks Clean

Pick Up After Your Pet...It's The Right Thing To "Doo"

Nothing ruins a peaceful walk in the park like stepping in dog poop. As a courtesy to park patrons, the City maintains pet waste bag dispensers in all public parks for pet owners. Help yourself to the bags but take only what you need for your walk. We will regularly check every dispenser to make sure there are always bags handy, but if we miss one, keep in mind that it is still the pet owner's responsibility to remove all animal waste from the park.



Lake Forest Pride of Ownership Winners

Congratulations to Julie Poindexter, the third winner of the Lake Forest Pride of Ownership contest. Mrs. Poindexter certainly boosted her curb appeal! We hope you enjoy your goodie basket of home improvement helpers.

You can show off your home improvement project by submitting before and after photos for consideration in the Lake Forest Pride of Ownership contest. Entries can be dropped off at City Hall, mailed in, or emailed to LFPrize@lakeforestca.gov. For more information, call 461-3544.



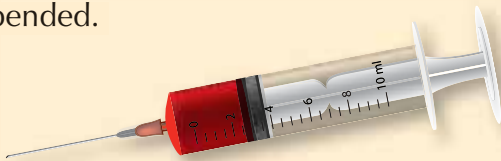
BEFORE



AFTER

Hazardous Drop-Box Program

Looking for a place to properly throw away sharps, medicines, and batteries? You can now take your hazardous supplies to Orange County's Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Center at 6411 Oak Canyon Avenue, Irvine. For a complete listing of HHW centers, call (714) 834-6752, or check online at www.oclandfills.com. The City is no longer providing hazardous drop boxes at City Hall and the El Toro and Foothill Ranch libraries since all funds for this program have been expended.



FAIR HOUSING

An impediment to fair housing opportunity is any policy or practice that denies or adversely affects the provision of housing to a person in any protected class. Examples of a protected class include minorities, elderly, and disabled persons. As a recipient of annual Federal Community Development Block Grant funds, the City of Lake Forest is committed to furthering fair housing practices in the community and cooperates with the Fair Housing Council of Orange County to eliminate discriminatory practices county-wide. Fair Housing opportunity is the law. If you or someone you know has a fair housing question or issue that needs to be addressed, please call the City's Housing Manager at 461-3471.



Water Wise – Prevent Pollution, Conserve Water, Save Money

Did you know that over-irrigation is a common occurrence that can cost a homeowner big bucks and contribute to pollution? Just paying a little more attention to your irrigation system can increase water conservation and cost savings, as well as fight pollution. Consider this – a typical residential sprinkler can emit about one gallon of water a minute. This means a lawn with 10 spray heads over-watered by 5 minutes a day equals 50 gallons of water wasted!

When sprinklers spray water on areas without landscaping, such as sidewalks and patio surfaces, or when landscaping is overwatered and the soil becomes saturated, the excess water runoff will travel over sidewalks, driveways, streets and gutters picking up pollutants on its way to the storm drain. Irrigation runoff can pick up and transport many different pollutants such as motor oil, pesticides, pet wastes, pathogens/bacteria, nitrates, toxic metals, and household chemicals. Unlike the sewer system, the runoff water is not treated and the storm drain system can convey this polluted water directly to our local creeks, lakes, and beaches.

Here are some smart tips to reduce or eliminate over-irrigation runoff and to conserve our limited water resources:

1. Turn off your sprinklers when it rains – use the rain delay on your controller.
2. Do not over-water. Most plants do not need to be watered everyday (especially lawns). Remember that your landscape vegetation needs different amounts of water during different seasons. Also, if you reduce your sprinkler cycle length and increase the number of cycles, you can reduce the amount of runoff. Use a water calculator at: www.bewaterwise.com/calculator.html#pagestart
3. Watch out for misdirected sprinklers – keep water on the plants, not the sidewalk or street. Also, periodically inspect your sprinkler system and fix any leaks.
4. For more tips and information, please visit www.bewaterwise.com/. Also check with your local water district (such as El Toro Water District and Irvine Ranch Water District) for information and assistance.



24-Hour Water Pollution Hotline (877) 89-SPILL

Remember, the Ocean Begins At Your Front Door.

For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 461-3480.

Recreation/Events Calendar

Fall/Winter 2012 (November-December)

NOVEMBER

Vista Lookout Cardio Hike **3**

9-11 a.m.

Whiting Ranch Park
(Borrego Entrance
Parking Lot)



Fee: \$5 per person, \$3 parking fee

NEW Teen Music Festival **3**

6-10 p.m.

Etnies Skatepark of Lake Forest
(20028 Lake Forest Dr)

Fee: \$5 per person;
pay at the door



Resident Winter 13 **Registration Begins 8 am**

Online, Mail-In, Walk-In

Skate Street Contest **17**

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Etnies Skatepark
of Lake Forest
(20028 Lake Forest Dr)

Fee: \$20 per person;
register day of event at 9 a.m.



Band Nights at the Skatepark **23**

6-10 p.m.

Etnies Skatepark
of Lake Forest
(20028 Lake Forest Dr)

Fee: \$5 per person; pay at the door



DECEMBER

31st Annual Victorian Christmas **1**

11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Heritage Hill Historical Park
(25151 Serrano Rd)

Fee: \$4 adults/
\$3 children
(ages 3-12)



North Pole Calling **3-5**

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Lake Forest Community Center
(25550 Commercentre Dr)

Free to Lake Forest residents.

- * Ages 3-4 will be called 12/3
- * Ages 5-6 will be called 12/4
- * Ages 7-8 will be called 12/5

Pre-registration
for this program
is mandatory. **Deadline**
to register is
Friday, November 30.



NEW Breakfast and Brunch With Santa **8**

8:30-10:30 a.m.

11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Lake Forest Community Center
(25550 Commercentre Dr)

Fee: \$6 per person
(children 3 and older
must be registered)

Pre-registration
for this program
is mandatory.



DECEMBER

27th Annual Candlelight Tour **8, 9**

5:30-8:30 p.m.

Heritage Hill Historical Park
(25151 Serrano Rd)

Fee: \$4 adults/\$3 children
(ages 3-12)



Band Nights at the Skatepark **28**

6-10 p.m.

Etnies Skatepark
of Lake Forest
(20028 Lake Forest Dr)

Fee: \$5 per person; pay at the door



Save the Date:
SnowFest 2013
Saturday, January 26

See inside Leisure Times
page 2 for all the info



For more info on any of these activities, call Community Services at 461-3450.



City of Lake Forest
25550 Commercentre Drive
Lake Forest, CA 92630

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ECRWSS

Important City Telephone Numbers



OC Animal Care 249-5160
Building Division 461-3470
Building Inspection. . . . 461-3468
City Clerk 461-3420
City Council 461-3420
City Manager's Office . . . 461-3410
Community
Policing Center 461-3530
Community
Preservation 461-3474
Etnies Skatepark 916-5870
Graffiti Hotline 461-3583
Planning 461-3491
Public Works 461-3480
Recreation 461-3450
Economic
Development 461-3567

IMPORTANT CITY WEBSITES

City
www.lakeforestca.gov
Economic Development
www.lakeforestbusiness.com
Etnies Skatepark of Lake Forest
www.etnieskateparkoflakeforest.com



The Leaflet is published by the City of Lake Forest and is distributed as a public service to the homes and businesses of the city. The City of Lake Forest welcomes your comments, suggestions and questions regarding *The Leaflet*. Please call or write:

Editor, *The Leaflet*
City of Lake Forest
25550 Commercentre Drive
Lake Forest, CA 92630
461-3400



www.lakeforestca.gov

"EXPAND THE FOREST"

The Expand the Forest program allows members of the community to dedicate trees in memory of departed loved ones or to commemorate special occasions while encouraging the expansion of our urban forest. Trees are \$70 and are planted and maintained by the City. There are several different species of approved trees which may be planted in several City parks.



For more information, please call the Public Works Department at 461-3480.

SPONSORS	TREE SPECIES	LOCATION	DEDICATION
Ann M. Watt	Sycamore	Rancho Serrano Park	In Loving Memory of Ron Watt, Beloved Husband of Ann and Father of Steve and Mark
Ann, Barbara, Debbie, Doreen, Michelle and Stephanie	Sycamore	Pittsford Park	In Loving Memory of Maria Burrascano
Grandma and Grandpa Huish	Tristania (2 Trees)	Foothill Ranch Community Park	Honoring Sophie E. Jacobson who Stands in Great Strength and Loving Memory of Her Father Dennis Jacobson
The Winne, Clarke, Jalowiec, Walsh Family & Friends	Magnolia	Borrego Overlook Park	In Loving Memory of Greg Winne
Jean Candiotti	Magnolia	Rancho Serrano Park	In Loving Memory of My Son, Stephen August 10, 1947 – January 5, 2010
Jean Candiotti	Sycamore	Rancho Serrano Park	In Loving Memory of My Collie Dog, Hanah. She was the best. July 15, 2003 – September 1, 2012

Looking for a Pet? Visit Lake Forest Pet of the Week!

Visit the City's website to meet the Lake Forest "Pet of the Week!" The "Pet of the Week" is a joint effort between the City and OC Animal Care to find a forever home for adoptable Lake Forest animals. A new pet is featured each week, along with an update on the adoption status of the previous Pet of the Week. Last year there were over 11,000 successful adoptions of dogs, cats and other animals from OC Animal Care. Visit www.ocpetinfo.com for more available animals that are in need of warm and loving homes. For more information, contact OC Animal Care at 249-5160 or visit them at ocgov.com.

